AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please remove paragraphs [0004]-[0005] and replace the same with the following:

[0004] It is suggested in WO 01/77527 to adhere strips of ~~cupper~~ copper tape onto the blades and connect the strips to receptors. The strips are intended for being able to conduct a lightning current to a receptor, from where it is conveyed on to earth via a cable. This involves that the strips must possess sufficient conductivity to be able to carry a lightning current that may be in excess of 50 kA. It must be possible to replace the strips following lightning strikes due to damage caused by powerful heating due to the lightning current, which entails both monitoring of the wind energy plant, standstill during replacement as well as high costs. Moreover, there is a risk of the strips loosening and hence adversely influencing the aerodynamic properties of the blade. Alternatively the strips must be of a very heavy configuration, which would entail undesirable additional weight on the blade. When long blades are to be made, one of the design problems is precisely to reduce the weight, since per se it constitutes a load not only on the blade, but also on the hub, the nacelle and the tower.

[0005] Airplanes are struck by lightning as well and consequently they must be lightning-proofed as well. Airplanes are provided with radar equipment, ia for

navigation purposes, that is typically arranged in the nose of the plane in order to be able to look ahead. When radar equipment is arranged in the nose, the nose is not constructed from aluminium like the rest of the plane, but rather from a plastics material since, otherwise, the radar would be unable to look through the nose. There being a risk of lightning striking also in or via the nose of the airplane, it has to be lightning proofed; however, in a manner so as not to disturb the radar. Since the ~~1960ies~~ 1960's it has been known to carry out the lightning proofing via so-called lightning diverter strips that may have various configurations. One example will appear from U.S. Pat. No. 4,237,514, wherein a feedstock material provided with aluminium powder is adhered in strips to ia the nose of an airplane. The aluminium powder does not constitute a continuous conductor, but rather interrupted or segmented conductive particles. When those metallic, each separately conductive particles are exposed to a large voltage field due to a lightning strike, the particles short-circuit and a current-conducting ~~ionised~~ ionized passage is formed in the air above the particles, in which the lightning current can be conducted to eg the metal hull of the plane. Instead of aluminium powder, U.S. Pat. No. 4,506,311 teaches button or club-shaped pieces of metal that are separately incorporated in a feedstock material that is shaped into a band. Both band and strips are intended for being mounted exteriorly on the plane nose, where they are arranged to project symmetrically from the nose tip. Such location yields good protection, but also involves some degree of

aerodynamic disturbance. On a blade for a wind energy plant, the arrangement of bands and strips on top of the aerodynamic profile of the blade will entail an undesired adverse effect on the efficiency and performance of the plant. Bands or strips will in this manner also be sources of noise, which will limit where and how close plants can be deployed. Besides, bands or strips of metal or metal grids possess a significantly different elasticity than the commonly used fibres for fibre-reinforcement of the blade shell. They are considerably more rigid and are hence exposed to large tensions due to the quite high stress strains to which the blade is exposed in practice, and therefore such bands or strips are susceptible to crack formation due to fatigue.

Please remove paragraphs [0021]-[0022] and replace the same with the following:

[0021] According to yet an alternative embodiment the electrically conductive particles may be ~~admixed~~ mixed with electrically non-conductive particles, eg ceramic particles, colour pigments, etc. This can be used to advantage to create suitable distance between the electrically conductive particles, ie with a view to achieving and safeguarding suitable segmentation so as to avoid the occurrence of a continuous conductor. The use may also bring about an optical effect eg to indicate where the electrically conductive particles are arranged on the blade, if it

is desired eg to see that from the ground when a wind energy plant is in operation.

[0022] According to a preferred embodiment the particles can be flat and elongate and of a length of between 2 and 10 mm and a transverse expanse between 1 and 5 mm. According to a further preferred embodiment the particles can be flat and essentially circular with a diameter between 2 and 10 mm and a thickness between 0.1 and 1 mm. In both cases a beneficial effect is accomplished with a view to producing ~~a ionised~~ an ionized passage in the air above the particles for conducting lightning current.

Please remove paragraph [0029] and replace it with the following:

[0029] The conductor means may preferably be made of metal, including brass, nickel, ~~cupper~~ copper, brass coated with nickel or varnished copper. Metals are preferably used that have a limited tendency towards oxidation upon contact with ambient air. Moreover, metals are resistant to the wear to which the blade is exposed in practice.

Please remove paragraph [0033] and replace it with the following:

[0033] Hereby a blade is accomplished that presents the same advantages as outlined above for a blade manufactured on the basis of a method according to the invention, including that the blade is able to tolerate a number of lightning strikes, the lightning current being conducted in ~~a ionised~~ an ionized passage in the air above the conductor means; and that the conductor means may have low weight; that the conductor means do not crack, etc.